CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, LONDON ROAD, DERBY.

A new and very elegant chapel has been recently erected in the London-road, Derby, from the designs of Mr. Stevens, resident architect. In the external character of this building the architect has attempted to employ the principal features of the ancient Roman temple, and to combine them harmoniously with an astylar Italian arrangement. The general plan is an oblong parallelogram 73 feet 6 inches, by 48 feet 6 inches externally, with a tetrastyle portico at the entrance front, and a deep recess at the opposite extremity. The order adopted is the Corinthian, and is a modification of the examples in the Campo Vaccino at Rome, generally considered as the remains of the Temple of Jupiter Stator. It is elevated on a stylobate, which affords sufficient height for schools and class-rooms under the whole area. The portico is approached in its whole extent by a flight of nine steps; the columns are 2 ft. 10 in. in diameter at the base, and the eustyle intercolumniation is adopted: it projects eleven feet, and is connected with the end of the building by square pillars with corresponding antæ at the four angles of the building. The flanks are brought out to the face of the antæ, and have each five large semicircular-headed windows with double reveals; the face of the inner one enriched with scroll ornaments; archwolts springing from continuous impost complete the decoration. The whole entablature of the order is continued round the building. A large arch under the portico leads into a recess, which affords access on each side to the lobbies, staircases, and chapel. The entrances to the schools are screened in front by a balustrade. The chapel is 70 feet long, 45 feet wide, and 42 feet high, including the lobbies and entrance recess, over which the gallery is continued. The ceiling is simple: it consists of a bold cove springing from a dental cornice. The horizontal position of the ceiling is enriched by two parallel quilloches and three circular ornamental openings, affording means of ventilation. The recess is filled by a vestry, and gallery over, which is separated from the body of the chapel by a bold elliptical arch springing from the impost. The ceiling of the recess is groined, and it is lighted by a window on each side. The chapel is calculated to seat 700 persons, and admits of the accommodation being increased one-half by an extension of the end gallery, and the addition of other galleries on the sides.

EMBOSSED OAK.

We have recently taken occasion to pay a visit to Messrs. Braithwaite and Co.'s ware-rooms, where specimens of this new mode of producing carvings in oak are deposited; and the inspection of these different specimens has left on our mind a strong impression of the capabilities and value of the process. Before we saw the quality of the work produced, we had an impression that the product of a process akin to branding would be necessarily rude and unsatisfactory. This impression a visit to Messrs. Braithwaite's warerooms has removed; and we believe such a visit would produce a similar effect on all minds infected with the same prejudices. Messrs. Braithwaite's process we ought to have explained, consists in forcing a piece of wood with great pressure against a red-hot die, by which means it receives almost as sharp an impression as metal will receive in a common stamping-engine. The surface of the wood is slightly discoloured by the operation, but this discolouration can easily be removed: in oak carving, however, the discolouration is rather pleasing than otherwise, as it gives the effect of age. There are two limitations which attach to the process as compared with ordinary wood carving:—there cannot be the same variety without an immense number of dies, and the operation of stamping does not admit of that high relief produced by under-cutting. The under-cutting, however, if desired, could be done by hand. We think this new mode of producing ornamental wood-work will be most applicable to the decorations of churches, to which purpose it has, we understand, been already extensively applied.

ROYAL NAVAL SCHOOL.—The foundation-stone will be laid on the 1st of June by Prince Albert. The site is Counter Hall, near Deptford.

The first stone of a new church was laid on Easter Monday for the district of Cove and South Hawley (near Farnborough, Hants). by Lord Calthorpe. Norman cruciform, with low tower at intersection; accommodation 250; built of brick, faced with heath stone, in courses, with Bath stone dressings. Cost will be about 1,200*l.* (no galleries); if added, will contain 400. G. Alexander, Esq., architect, 9. John-street, Adelphi: T. Cooper, builder, Hartly-row.

CHURCH OF ST. MARY BOURNE, NEAR WHITCHURCH, HANTS.

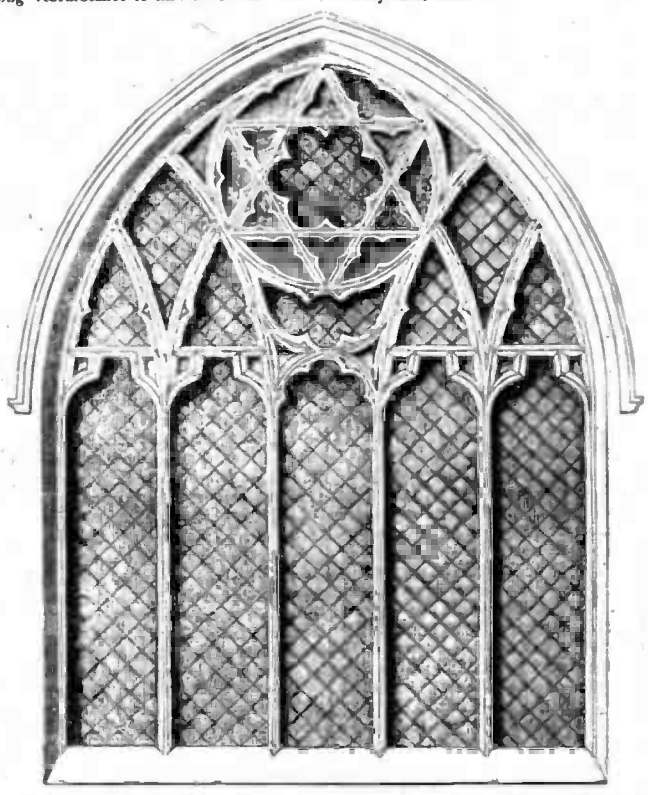
TO THE EDITOR OF THE BUILDER.

SIR,—Having seen in THE BUILDER a sketch of St. Marie's Church, Islington, as proposed to have been restored by Mr. Pugin, I send herewith a sketch of the east window in the church of St. Mary Bourne, near Whitchurch, Hants, thinking it may not be uninteresting to your readers, as it bears such a strong resemblance to that of St. Marie's. I imagined at first, that the transoms, &c. in the heads of the four lights were of later date, but on a more minute examination, I was satisfied they were original.

Trusting you will think it worthy of insertion in your valuable paper,

I remain, your obedient servant,

May 2nd, 1843. J. C.



NEW BUILDING ACT—MASTER CARPENTERS' SOCIETY.

A MEETING of the committee was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on the 17th inst., Mr. H. Biers, President in the chair; present, Messrs. Lever, Grissell, Knight, Harris, Stephens, Allen, Higgs, Stokes, and Burstall, when a report upon the intended act was unanimously agreed to, a copy of which will be found below; and to which report, from the very elaborate manner in which the act is considered throughout its several provisions, we call the attention of our readers, as well worthy their serious consideration.

The Report of the Committee appointed by the Society of Master Carpenters to investigate and superintend the progress of the intended New Building Act through Parliament:

YOUR committee beg leave to report to the society that, in accordance with their wishes, they have very carefully and deliberately perused and considered the several clauses and enactments contained in the proposed New Building Act, and they do not hesitate to pronounce it as one of the most important measures in which the building interest at large has been interested for many years past; and they have much satisfaction in saying, that, in many of its parts, it is a great improvement upon the present Building Act, the 14th Geo. 3, cap. 78.

Your committee state, that it is now upwards of two years since they entered upon the duty of watching the progress and considering the several building enactments proposed to the legislature during that period; in deliberating upon the present proposed bill, they have been actuated by a sincere desire to promote only the general good of the whole of the community; and when it is understood that it comprises within its limits, and controls by its powers, the domestic economy of between two and three millions of the inhabitants of the metropolitan district of this great empire, it must be obvious to all, that as regards the objects embraced within its enactments, it is one of the most important Acts of Parliament that has occupied the attention of the building interests and the public generally for many years; and they therefore entreat the most serious consideration as to its probable effects upon all within its range.

Your committee inform you that their attention has been called most particularly to a great evil in the old Building Act, namely, its extreme ambiguity: this has proved a source of much litigation and ill-feeling in a great number of instances; they have to recommend a strict regard to simplicity and plainness of language in the intended enactment, and have made several emendations therein where there appeared to be an ambiguity, or where there might arise a difference as to the construction or intention of its several provisions.

Your committee state to the society that, in the proposed act, a clause is inserted, which will prevent the use of BLACK bricks in any building; this prohibition they propose to modify; and, in order to prevent the improper use of shuffy, or soft bricks, they would advise that the words, instead of being good sound "WELL BURNT" bricks, it should read "GOOD SOUND" bricks, and that GOOD BLACK bricks should not be excluded; and they would also advise that no place bricks should be used at all externally, or in basement stories, at all events below the springing of the chimney arch; to prohibit the use of sound place bricks would operate most injuriously to the interests of the brickmaker, or must inevitably very greatly increase the price of stocks.

Your committee, in discussing the clause that refers to the projecting or building shops or other erections in the front courts or front gardens of private houses, particularly in roads in the vicinity of town, while tenacious of detracting from the rights of the freeholder, cannot admit that one individual, in a respectable row of houses, should be allowed to cover his front garden to the annoyance and injury of the neighbourhood; they would propose, for the better definition

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